

Utility Patent
Ser. No 10/033,862

In the Claims

Please amend the following claims by deleting the language which is enclosed in brackets "[]" and inserting the language which is underlined "_____".

1. (Currently amended): A particle entrapment pad comprising:

a preformed high loft, [[non-adsorbent]] non-absorbent nonwoven top layer, said high loft nonwoven being defined as a chemically inert open pore matrix or web attached to a bottom layer;

[[a]] an externally applied, [[chemically inert]] cling enhancing substance charged within said matrix or web;

wherein said high loft nonwoven top layer receives and entraps particles and said bottom layer maintains said particles within said entrapment pad.

2 (Currently amended): The pad of claim 1 wherein said [[chemically inert]] cling enhancing substance is [[capable of being]] preloaded with [[chemically]] reactive particles.

3. (Currently Amended): The pad of claim 2 wherein said [[chemically]] reactive particles are selected from the group comprising: baking soda; dry or powdered particulates; anti-microbial agent; superabsorbent polymer; disinfectant; silica gel; antifungal; fragrance; and odor-counteractive agent.

4. (Previously Presented) The pad of claim 1 wherein said top layer is treated with a substance selected from the group comprising: baking soda; dry or powdered particulates; anti-microbial agent; superabsorbent polymer; disinfectant; silica gel; antifungal; fragrance; and deodor-counteractive agent.
5. Cancel
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7. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 1, further comprising a liquid-absorbing middle layer.
8. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said middle layer is wood pulp.
9. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said middle layer is a super absorbent polymer.
10. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said middle layer is treated with baking soda.
11. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 10, further comprising a super absorbent polymer.
12. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said middle layer is treated with an anti-microbial agent.

13. (Withdrawn): The pad of claim 7, wherein said middle layer is treated with an odor-counteractive agent.
14. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 8, wherein said wood pulp is treated with a super absorbent polymer.
15. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said top layer is treated with a cling enhancing substance.
16. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said top layer is treated with baking soda.
17. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said top layer is treated with an anti-microbial agent.
18. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said top layer is treated with an odor-counteractive agent.
19. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad includes a decorative design.
20. (Previously presented) The pad of claim 1, wherein said particles are cat litter.

21. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used as a dish-draining mat.
22. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used as a doormat.
23. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 25, wherein said doormat is a runner.
24. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used as a car floor mat.
25. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used as a bathroom mat.
26. (Withdrawn): The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used under countertop soap dishes and dispensers.
27. (Withdrawn): The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used to line garbage receptacles.
28. (Withdrawn): The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used to catch excess water and soil under potted plants.
29. (Previously presented): The pad of claim 1, wherein said particles are workshop debris.
30. (Previously presented): The pad of claim 1, wherein said particles are dust.

31. (Previously presented): The pad of claim 1, wherein said particles are pet food.
32. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used in the vicinity of a pet food or pet water dish.
33. (Previously presented) The pad of claim 4, wherein said baking soda absorbs odors in a refrigerator.
34. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 9, further comprising baking soda, wherein said pad is used to absorb odors and excess moisture.
35. (Withdrawn): The pad of claim 7 wherein said middle layer is mostly silica gel.
36. (Original) A particle entrapment pad comprising an impervious bottom layer and a high loft non-woven top layer, wherein said top layer includes a plurality of cat litter particles entrapped within a matrix of said non-woven.
37. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 36, further comprising a liquid-absorbing middle layer.
38. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 36, wherein said middle layer is wood pulp.

39. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 36, wherein said middle layer is a super absorbent polymer.
40. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 38, wherein said wood pulp is treated with a super absorbent polymer.
41. (original) The pad of claim 36, wherein said top layer is treated with a cling enhancing substance.
42. (original) The pad of claim 36, wherein said top layer is treated with baking soda.
43. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 36, wherein said middle layer is treated with baking soda.
44. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 43, wherein said middle layer is treated with a super absorbent polymer.
45. (Original): The pad of claim 36, wherein said top layer is treated with an anti-microbial agent.
46. (Withdrawn): The pad of claim 36, wherein said middle layer is treated with an

anti-microbial agent.

47. (Original) The pad of claim 36, wherein said top layer is treated with an odor-counteractive agent.
48. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 36, wherein said middle layer is treated with an odor-counteractive agent.
49. (Withdrawn) An anti-odor pouch comprising:
a non-woven front layer;
a non-woven back layer attached to said non-woven front layer; and
a middle layer of baking soda layered between said front and back layer.
50. (Withdrawn) The anti-odor pouch of claim 49 wherein said middle layer includes a non-woven treated with baking soda.
51. (Withdrawn) The anti-odor pouch of claim 49, wherein said pouch is used to deodorize a refrigerator.
52. (Withdrawn) The anti-odor pouch of claim 49, wherein said middle layer further comprises silica gel.

53 (Withdrawn) The anti-odor pouch of claim 52, further comprising a super absorbent polymer.

54. (withdrawn): The anti-odor pouch of claim 52, wherein said pouch is used to deodorize and dehumidify a refrigerator.

55 (Withdrawn) A method of entrapping particles comprising:
layering a high loft non-woven top layer, having an upper end and a lower end, on top of an impervious bottom layer to create a two-layer pad;
attaching said lower end of said top layer to said bottom layer; and
placing said pad, top layer up, upon a surface where particles will fall;
wherein, when said particles fall upon said non-woven top layer said particles become trapped within a matrix of said non-woven top layer;
wherein, fine particles fall to said lower end of said top layer;
wherein, coarse particles are suspended within said matrix; and
wherein, said pad can be easily disposed of without spilling said particles.

56 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 55, wherein said pad is used to entrap litter particles.

57 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 55, wherein said pad is used to entrap carbon particles.5

58 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 55, wherein said pad is used to entrap dust particles.

59 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 55, wherein said pad is used to entrap soil.

60 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 55, wherein said pad is used to entrap food particles.

61 (Withdrawn) A method of entrapping particles while absorbing liquid comprising:
layering a high loft non-woven top layer, having an upper end and a lower end, on top of
a liquid-absorbing middle layer that is layered upon an impervious bottom layer to create a
three-layer pad;

attaching said lower end of said top layer to said middle layer;

attaching said middle layer to said bottom layer; and

placing said pad, top layer up, upon a surface where particles and liquid will fall;

wherein, when said particles fall upon said non-woven top layer said particles become trapped
within a matrix of said non-woven top layer;

wherein, fine particles fall to said lower end of said top layer;

wherein, coarse particles are suspended within said matrix;

wherein, when liquid falls upon said non-woven top layer, said liquid passes through said top
layer and is absorbed by said middle layer; and

wherein, said pad can be easily disposed of without spilling said particles and said liquid.

62 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 61 wherein said middle layer includes baking soda.

63 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 62 wherein said middle layer includes a super absorbent polymer.

64 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 61, wherein said pad is used to entrap water.

65 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 61, wherein said pad is used to entrap urine.

66 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 61, wherein said pad is used to entrap litter particles.

67 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 61, wherein said pad is used to entrap food particles.

68 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 61, wherein said pad is used to entrap soil.

69 (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 1, further comprising a means for attaching said pad to another surface.

70 (Previously Presented) The pad of claim 1 wherein said cling enhancing substance is a sticky substance.

71 (Currently Amended) A particle entrapment pad comprising a high loft, non [[adsorbent]] absorbent, nonwoven top layer treated with a cling enhancing substance to receive and trap particles, said high loft nonwoven being defined as a matrix formed of fibers or filaments randomly oriented and fused at intersecting points of said fibers or filaments and secured to an impervious bottom layer to maintain said particles within said entrapment pad, wherein said high loft non-woven top layer receives and entraps particles and said bottom layer is impervious to said particles.

72. (Previously Presented) The pad of claim 71 wherein said top layer is treated with a substance selected from the group comprising: baking soda; superabsorbent polymer; antimicrobial agent; commercially available tacky material; oil; silica; fragrance; calcium carbonate; fragrance; and odor counteractive agent.

73. (Cancel)

74. (Cancel)

75 ((Previously Presented)) A particle entrapment pad comprising: a high loft, top layer, said high loft non-woven being defined as a matrix formed of synthetic fibers or filaments randomly oriented and fused at intersecting points of said fibers or

filaments to receive and trap particles and secured to a bottom layer to maintain said particles within said entrapment pad;
said top layer being treated with a cling enhancing substance; and
said high loft nonwoven top layer is treated with at least one additional agent.

76 (Cancel)

77. (Currently Amended) The pad of claim 75 wherein said cling enhancing substance [[is chemically inert]] can contact a particle without forming a chemical reaction between said particle and said cling enhancing substance.

78. (Currently Amended) The pad of Claim 75, wherein said additional agent is selected from the group comprising: baking soda; antimicrobial agent; at least one superabsorbent polymer; fragrance; an odor counteractive agent; and a scent or pheromone that causes an animal to urinate or defecate directly on said entrapment pad.

79. (Cancel)

80. (Cancel)

81. (Cancel)

82. (Original) A particle entrapment pad comprising an impervious bottom layer and a high loft non-woven top layer, wherein said top layer includes a chemically inert cling substance within a matrix of said non-woven.

83. (Currently Amended) The pad of Claim 82, wherein said inert cling substance is capable of being preloaded with reactive particles without a chemical reaction occurring between said cling substance and said preloaded reactive particle.
84. (Currently Amended) The pad of Claim 83, wherein said reactive particles are chemically reactive when soluble.
85. (Original) The pad of Claim 83, wherein said reactive particles are selected from the group comprising: substance selected from the group comprising: baking soda; dry or powdered particulates; anti-microbial agent; superabsorbent polymer; disinfectant; silica gel; antifungal; fragrance; and doer-counteractive agent.
86. (New) The pad of Claim 1, said bottom layer further provides a skid resistant lower surface to preventing movement or skidding of said pad.
87. (New) A particle entrapment pad comprising an bottom layer and a high loft non-woven top layer, wherein reactive particles are retained between said top layer and said bottom layer.
88. (New) The particle entrapment pad of Claim 87, further comprising a chemically inert

cling substance between said top layer and said bottom layer.

89. (New) The particle entrapment pad of Claim 88, wherein said reactive particles are selected from the group comprising: substance selected from the group comprising: baking soda; dry or powdered particulates; anti-microbial agent; superabsorbent polymer; disinfectant; silica gel; antifungal; fragrance; and deodor-counteractive agent.
90. (New) The particle entrapment pad of Claim 86 wherein said bottom layer and said top layer are formed of the same high loft non-woven material

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